

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 180969

FOLLOWING REPEAT MOSCOW 10089 SENT ACTION SECSTATE, GENEVA

INFO USUN 13 JUL 77

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 10089

GENEVA FOR AMBASSADOR WARNKE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UR US PARM XO

SUBJECT: SOVIET SUGGESTED TEXT ON INDIAN OCEAN TALKS FOR
USE WITH UN AD HOC COMMITTEE

REF:(A) STATE 159688 (B) STATE 161501

SUMMARY: MENDELEVICH SUGGESTED COMPROMISE FOR USE BY BOTH
SIDES WITH UN AD HOC COMMITTEE ON INDIAN OCEAN. HE STATED
SOVIETS ARE PREPARED TO TRANSMIT TEXT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO
COMMITTEE CHARMAN AMERASINGHE AND TO LITTORAL STATES.
IF US DOES NOT AGREE TO COMPROMISE TEXT, SOVIETS PLAN TO
USE THEIR REVISED TEXT. END SUMMARY.

1. POL COUNS AND EMBOFF MET WITH MENDELEVICH AND PALENKH
JULY 13 TO TRANSMIT MESSAGE FROM WARNKE AS INSTRUCTED REF A.
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MENDELEVICH READ TEXT OF SUGGESTED POINTS FOR USE WITH UN
AD HOC COMMITTEE AND COMPARED THESE WITH REVISED RUSSIAN
DRAT WHICH HE SAID SOVIET EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON HAD
DELIVERED TO WARNKE. NOTING THAT WARNKE'S MESSAGE
TO HIM DATED FROM JULY 9, MENDELEVICH SAID THAT SOVIET
REVISED TEXT OBVIOUSLY HAD NOT REACHED WASHINGTON IN
TIME.

2. TO FACILITATE AGREEMENT MENDELEVICH SUGGESTED FOLLOWING COMPOSITE TEXT WHICH HE HOPES WILL MEET US REQUIREMENTS AND WHICH HE FELT WOULD BE APPROVED BY SOVIET "AUTHORITIES." WORDS IN BRACKETSA ARE SUGGESTED ALTERNAIVE PHRASING. BEGIN TEXT:

1. IN ACCORDANCE WITH AN EARLIER UNDERSTANDING, THE DELEGATIONS OF THE USSR AND THE USA MET IN MOSCOW BETWEEN JUNE 22 AND JUNE 27, 1977, TO DISCUSS SBME QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE INDIAN OCEAN. THE MEETINGS WERE ORGANIZED IN THE FRAMEWORK OF SOVIET-AMERICAN TALKS, WHICH ARE BEING CONDUCTED ON A VARIETY OF (ARMS CONTROL/ARMS LIMITATION) ISSUES.

2. IN THE COURSE OF THE CONSULATATIONS HELD, AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS TOOK PLACE ON POSSIBLE STEPS BY BOTH SIDES, WHICH WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO LIMITATION OF ARMS IN THE AREA OF THE INDIAN OCEAN. THE MEEETINGS CONTRIBUTED TO A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF EACH PARTY'S VIEWS AS WELL AS OF EXISTING (DIFFERENCES/DIVERGENCES) AMONG THEM.

3. IT WAS NOTED IN THE COURSE OF THE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS THAT THE LITTORAL STATES OF THE INDIAN OCEAN AS WELL AS OTHER STATES, WHICH USE ITS WATERWAYS, TAKE
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AN ACTIVE INTEREST IN (MAKING THE INDIAN OCEAN A ZONE OF PEACE/STRENGTHENING PEACE (IN THE AREA/IN THE INDIAN OCEAN)). THE TWO SIDES (STATED/DECLARED) THAT THEY SHARE THIS GOAL.

4. THE TWO SIDES ALSO EXPRESSED THE CONVICTION THAT IN SOLVING THE QUESTIONS RELATED TO THE STRENGTHENING OF PEACE IN THE AREA OF THE INDIAN OCEAN FULL ACCOUNT SHOULD BE TAKEN OF THE UNIVERSALLY RECOGNIZED RULES OF INTERNATIONAL LAW REGARDING FREEDOM OF NAVIGATION AND FLIGHTS OF AIRCRAFT OVER THE WATERS OF THE HIGH SEAS, UNIMPEDED CONDUCT OF COMMERCIAL NAVIGATION, OCEONOGRAPHIC AND OTHER RESEARCH AS WELL AS OTHER APPLICABLE RULES OF INTERNATIONAL LAW.

5. THE SIDES AGREE THAT PHE TALKS WOULD BE CONTINUED. END TEXT.

3. THE FOLLOWING ARE MENDELEVICH'S REASONS FOR THIS SUGGESTED COMPOSITE TEXT. IN PARA 1 HE SUGGESTS USING FIRST SENTENCE OF SOVIET DRAFT BECAUSE IT MATCHES LANGUAGE IN PRESS COMMUNIQUE AGREED TO ON

JUNE 27 AT CLOSE OF FIRST ROUND OF TALKS. FOR SECOND SENTENCE OF PARA 1, HE RECOMMENDS USING AMERICAN DRAFT SENTENCE WITH QUALIFICATION THAT TERM "ARMS CONTROL" CANNOT BE CORRECTLY TRANSLATED INTO RUSSIAN, AND THEREFORE "ARMS LIMITATION" (ORGANICHENIYE VOORUZHENIYA) MUST BE USED IN RUSSIAN VERSION. MENDELEVICH, HOWEVER, THINKS EITHER "ARMS CONTROL" OR "ARMS LIMITATION" ARE ACCEPTABLE IN ENGLISH VERSION.

4. IN SECOND PARA, HE SUGGESTS USING FIRST SENTENCE OF SOVIET REVISED TEXT, AGAIN BECAUSE THIS MATCHES PRESS RELEASE LANGUAGE. FOR SECOND SENTENCE, PARA 2, HE BELIEVES THAT TO BE OBJECTIVE WE MUST TELL AD HOC COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN THAT WE DID NOT AGREE ON ALL CONFIDENTIAL

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POINTS AND THAT SOME DIFFERENCES OR DIVERGENCES REMAIN. HE NOTED THAT US SECOND SENTENCE, WHILE ALLUDING TO DIFFERENCES, DOES NOT STATE THAT THERE ARE ANY. HE SUGGESTS, THEREFORE, USING SECOND SENTENCE FROM SOVIET REVISED DRAFT SINCE THIS CORRESPONDS IN PART TO PRESS RELEASE LANGUAGE WITH THE ADDITION OF THE REFERENCE TO "DIFFERENCES." IF, HOWEVER, THE US SIDE WOULD PREFER TO SOFTEN THE WORD "DIFFERENCES", HE WOULD SUGGEST USING WORD "DIVERGENCES". EITHER VERSION WOULD BE AGREEABLE TO SOVIETS ALTHOUGH THEY PREFER "DIFFERENCES."

5. REGARDING THE THIRD PARA, MENDELEVICH STATED THAT US CHARACTERIZATION OF THE POSITION OF VARIOUS LITTORAL STATES IS "SIMPLY NOT ACCURATE." MANY LITTORAL STATES ARE URGING A ZONE OF PEACE, HE SAID, AND THIS IS NOT AT ALL EQUIVALENT TO "PREVENTING AN ARMS RACE BETWEEN THE GREAT POWERS." THEREFORE, MENDELEVICH CANNOT ACCEPT THIS PHRASING, BUT IS WILLING TO MODIFY THE SOVIET REVISED DRAFT, PARA 3, TO SOFTEN THE REFERENCE TO A ZONE OF PEACE. HIS SUGGESTION IS SUBSTITUTING HRASE "INTEREST IN STRENGTHENING PEACE IN THAT AREA (THE INDIAN OCEAN)" AT THE END OF THE FIRST SENTENCE OF PARA 3. REGARDING SECOND SENTENCE OF PARA 3, HE COULD ACCEPT THE US SENTENCE PROVIDED THAT THE TERM "AGREED" IS NOT USED SINCE IN HIS OPINION THIS CONVEYS MORE THAN IN FACT OCCURED IN THE FIRST ROUND OF TALKS. HE STATED THAT HE WOULD PREFER TO BE MORE CAUTIOUS ABOUT WHAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED THUS FAR EVEN THOUGH IN THE END WE MAY "AGREE" ON THIS POINT.

6. PARA 4 AND 5 ARE AGRED SINCE NEITHER US NOR CONFIDENTIAL

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SOVIET DRAFTS DIFFER.

7. MENDELEVICH URGED THAT AGREEMENT BE REACHED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE ON A COMMON TEXT TO BE CONVEYED TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE AD HOC GROUP. HE SUGGESTED THE TEXT NOT BE PRESENTED JOINTLY (I.E. AT THE SAME MEETING) BUT THAT AGREEMENT MIGHT BE REACHED TO PRESENT IT "IN PARALLEL" (I.E. IN SEPARATE MEETINGS WITH AMERASINGHE ON THE SAME DAY).

8. HE ALSO NOTED THAT THE SOVIETS HAD SUGGESTED USING AN AGREED TEXT TO INFORM THE LITTORAL STATES AS WELL AS THE AD HOC COMMITTEE, AND NOTED THAT WARNKE'S MESSAGE DID NOT ADDRESS THE QUESTION OF HOW TO INFORM THE LITTORAL STATES. MENDELEVICH SAID THAT IT WAS THEIR INTENTION TO TRANSMIT A COPY TO THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE LITTORAL STATES AT ABOUT THE SAME TIME THAT THEY WOULD PRESENT AMERASHINGHE WITH HIS COPY. INSTRUCTIONS TO THEIR EMBASSIES IN THE LITTORAL STATES WOULD BE SENT AT THE SAME TIME AS THE INSTRUCTIONS TO THE SOVIET MISSION IN NEW YORK.

9. SHOULD THE UNITED STATES NOT AGREE TO THE COMPOSITE TEXT AS PROPOSED BY MENDELEVICH, HE STATED THAT THE SOVIETS WOULD USE THEIR REVISED TEXT WITH AMERASINGHE AND THE LITTORAL STATES AND SUGGESTS THAT THE UNITED STATES USE ITS TEXT IN MAKING ITS PRESENTATION. HE PRESENTED THIS AS "AN HONEST ALTERNATIVE" SINCE HE NOTED THAT THE DIFFERENCES IN THE TEXT WERE NOT GREAT AND THAT MUCH TIME COULD BE WASTED TRYING TO REACH AN AGREED TEXT. IN THE MEANWHILE, THE SOVIETS ARE FEELING PRESSURE FROM LITTORAL STATES TO INFORM THEM OF WHAT TRANSPIRED IN THE TALKS. HE IMAGINED SIMILAR REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION HAVE BEEN RECEIVED IN WASHINGTON FROM THE LITTORAL STATES. FINALLY, MENDELEVICH NOTED THAT HE WAS LEAVING

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JULY 14 ON VACATION AND WOULD NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR FURTHER NEGOTIATION OF TEXT. IT WAS HIS DESIRE, THEREFORE, TO AGREE TO THE COMPOSITE TEXT AND TO INSTRUCT SOVIET MISSION IN NEW YORK AND SOVIET EMBASSIES IN LITTORAL COUNTRIES TO PRESENT THE TEXT EARLY NEXT WEEK. FOR THIS HE WOULD REQUIRE US AGREEMENT ON THE COMPOSITE TEXT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE THIS WEEK.

10. OTHER TOPICS RAISED IN CONVERSATION FOLLOW
SEPTEL.

11. ACTION REQUESTED: A RESPONSE TO MENDELEVICH'S
SUGGESTED COMPOSITE TEXT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. IF
WE CANNOT AGREE TO COMPOSTIE TEXT,WE SHOULD GIVE
MENDELEVICH OUR REACTION TO HIS "HONEST
ALTERNATIVE."
TOON

UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TROOP DEPLOYMENT, TEXT, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, COMMITTEES, NEGOTIATIONS, OCEANS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 02-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: PM/DCA:MARIETTI
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
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TAGS: PARM, UR, US, XO, UN AD HOC COMMITTEE
To: USNMR SHAPE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/18ad144f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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